

Message

From: Mutter, Andrew [mutter.andrew@epa.gov]
Sent: 4/8/2019 10:29:52 PM
To: Wardell, Christopher [Wardell.Christopher@epa.gov]
CC: Mylott, Richard [Mylott.Richard@epa.gov]
Subject: Re: meconium data/presentation background

Thx Chris

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 8, 2019, at 4:27 PM, Wardell, Christopher <Wardell.Christopher@epa.gov> wrote:

Below is a quick write up, let me know if you need more information. I sent notes to Nikia, Charlie, Dan and Joe to be available after the presentation. Nikia will attend as well.

On April 10 Dr. Katie Hailer, Department of Chemistry & Geochemistry, Montana Tech will present a talk/presentation entitled Assessing Human Metal Accumulations in an Urban Superfund Site at 12:00 pm MST. Dr. Hailer collected meconium data on 15 newborns in Butte MT and 17 in South Carolina, and tested a for a full suite of metals. Most elevations of metals seen are not COC's at the site, and there was virtually no difference in lead levels between the populations. This is a collaborative study between Dr. Hailer and Dr. McDermott who last year published studies critical of the clean-up in Butte. It's also unclear that this presentation on April 10th will discuss this data collection, but we have reached out to confirm. EPA toxicologist, RPM and CIC met with Dr. Hailer on Tuesday March 26 where she shared this information with us. No copies of the Data were given to us, we just reviewed it.

All the data shows is that there is a difference between the meconium in the Butte newborns vs the SC newborn

Absolutely does not make any inferences to possible health effect

Virtually impossible to determine health effect from levels in baby poop. Little to no national data on meconium and metal levels nationally

It is certainly an interesting finding and support Dr. Hailer in her investigation, offering whatever assistance we can. We are supportive of a more thorough scientific investigation into this possible difference. At this time the data are too limited to establish if this difference actually exists, but believe that it is a worthwhile endeavor.

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